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The China Mail.

ESTABLISHED 1845

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OVERLAND CHINA MAIL
(PUBLISHED EVERY
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Contains the Week's News
of Hongkong and the
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Printed (including Postage) to any
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2s. 6d. per annum.

No. 16785.

第一一三三十七號百九千壹第

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1917.

己丁未年六國民華中

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SOLE AGENTS:
A. S. WATSON & Co. Ltd.
WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
HONGKONG.
TEL. 616.



NOTICE.
ANY EUROPEAN, NON-ASIATIC or
INDIAN, desiring to leave the
Colony should apply in person at the
Central Police Station between the hours
of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M.
daily.
Applicants will be required to produce
Passports or Identification papers. All
persons, with certain exceptions, who
remain in the Colony for more than
7 days are required to Register them-
selves under the REGISTRATION OF
PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916. Forms
of Registration giving the particulars
required may be obtained at the G.P.O.
and at all Police Stations.
The Penalty for non-compliance is a
fine not exceeding \$50.

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.
7.00 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
8.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
11.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
2.15 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
4.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
NIGHT CARS.
8.50 p.m. and 9 p.m., 9.30 p.m. to 11.00
p.m. every half hour.
11.00 p.m. to 11.45 p.m. every quarter of
an hour.
SUNDAYS.
8.00 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
11.30 a.m. to 12 Noon. Every 15 minutes.
12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
5.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
6.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
6.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
NIGHT CARS as on Week Days.

SATURDAY.

Extra Car at 12 midnight.
SPECIAL CARS by arrangement at the
Company's Office, ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS,
Des Voeux Road Central.

Season and punch tickets available for
all cars not already full running at the
time stated in the Company's time tables,
but not for special cars, can be obtained
on application at the Company's Office.
No Season ticket will be issued until
payment therefor has been made in Bank
Notes or by Cheque or Comptroller's order,
representing Bank Notes.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.

THE FIRST CHINESE NEWSPAPER
EVER ISSUED UNDER
PURELY NATIVE DIRECTION.

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THE LEADING CHINESE POLITICAL AND
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Steel Building Work of every Description.
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Prompt Attention and Shipment to Destination.
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BEST CARS IN THE COLONY FOR HIRE.

ANISEED AND LICORICE COUGH BALSAM.

FOR THE RELIEF OF ALL CATARRHAL
COMPLAINTS SUCH AS COUGHS, COLDS,
HOARSENESS, AND SORENESS OF THE
CHEST.

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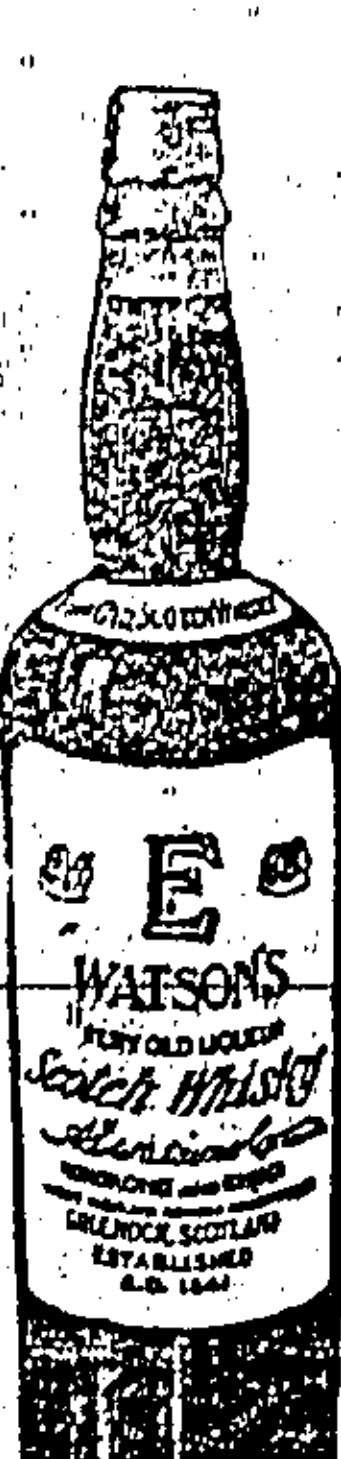
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Oil Drilling Cables of any size up to 3,000 feet in length.

Prices, samples and full particulars will be forwarded on application to
Shewan, Tomes & Co. General Manager.

Hongkong, April 11, 1912.



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THE PREMIER
SCOTCH.**
MILD, MELLOW, MATURED.

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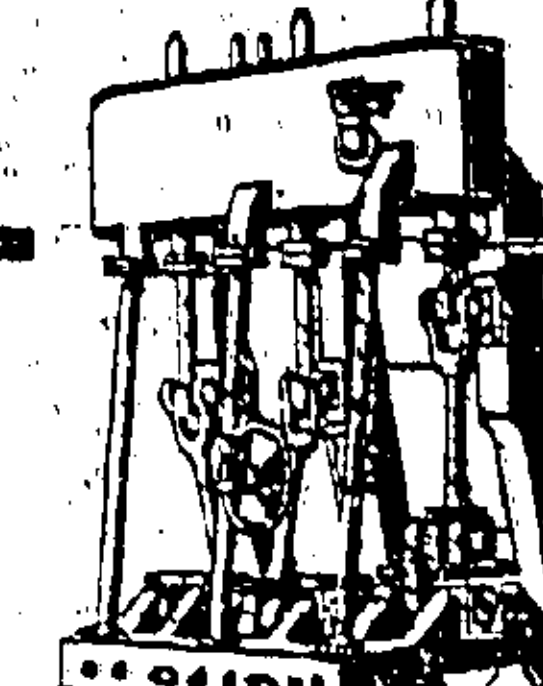
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Works Office, 4A, CANTONMENT ROAD CENTRAL, HONGKONG. Telephone No. 419.
Shipyard: Sham-Sui-Po, Kowloon, Kowloon. Telephone No. 9.
Estimates furnished on application.

WONG PING WA. Manager.
Hongkong, April, 1912.

BUSINESS NOTICES.



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BUILDERS OF SHIPS & ENGINES
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION
—THE TAIKOO DOCKYARD & ENGINEERING COMPANY—
—OF HONGKONG LTD.—
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SUTHERFIELD & SWIRE
—TELEPHONE 412—
—TELEGRAMS: TAIKOO DOCKYARD—

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PORTLAND CEMENT

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In Bags of 250 lbs. net.

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AND

GRILL ROOM

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MANAGER.

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ADIRABLY SITUATED AT VICTORIA GAP.

Adjoining the Tramway Terminus, 1,400 feet above Sea Level.

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Telephones in all rooms. First-class Cuisine, Lounge, Smoking and Ladies
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YOKOHAMA, JAPAN

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CANTON.

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ALL ELECTRIC TRAM PASSENGER ENTRANCE,
Electric Lifts, Fans and Lighting,
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Hot and Cold Water System throughout.

Best of Food and Service.

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VICTORIA

J. WITCHMILL,
Manager.

TANG YUK FAY, successor to
the late SLEN YING.

14, D'ARQUEL STREET.

TERMS VERY MODERATE

Conversation free.

THE WAR.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

GERMANY'S AIMS.

THE GERMAN CHANCELLOR'S
SPEECH.

COMPENSATION FOR THE
INIQUITY SUFFERED.

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 26.

In the Reichstag, Dr. von Beth-
mann-Hollweg, the Chancellor, said
it would be unfruitful for him to
specify peace conditions in advance.

The one aim was to obtain com-
pensation for the iniquity suffered.
He foreshadowed a political re-
organisation after the war and
militarism on the ground of geo-
graphical necessity.

The Chancellor complained of the
peremptoriness with which President
Wilson had broken off relations and
accused him of gross partiality
towards England.

Defending submarineism, Dr. Beth-
mann-Hollweg said that newspaper
reports demonstrated that Germany
could be more than satisfied at the
results of the new campaign which
had surpassed all naval expectations.

He asserted that he had tried as
much as possible to alleviate neutral
shipping difficulties owing to the
establishment of barred zones, at-
tempting to supply them with coal
and iron.

All these difficulties were caused
by England's tyranny on the seas.
"We will and shall break this en-
slavement of all non-English trade,"
he said.

The Chancellor declared that the
decision with regard to the barred
zone was irrevocable. He said:
"We are fighting for the freedom of
the oceans, which is also most advan-
tageous to neutrals."

He accused President Wilson of
brusquely breaking off relations and
said that Mr. Gerard had only com-
municated the decision of the
Foreign Secretary verbally and then
asked for his passports.

He declared that the procedure
adopted was unprecedented and that
he was forced, in the absence of
official documents, to rely upon
Reuter's version of President Wil-
son's message to Congress on Feb-
ruary 3. He registered a protest
against the President's arguments.

SUBMARINE PIRACY.

SHIPPING LOSSES.

LONDON, Feb. 27.

A ditional sinkings during the week-
end were the steamers *Benficent*, *Jess*,
Falcon, *Grenadier*, *Loughree* and *Trojan*.
Prize, all British.

The total tonnage is about 14,000.
The Captain and six of the *Gre-*
nadier's crew were killed.

RUNNING THE GAUNTLET.

CAPTAIN AND CREW OF THE
ORLEANS FETTERED.

BOERUX, Feb. 27.

The reception of the Orleans was
most enthusiastic. The Prefect,
heading many notable persons, went
on board and addressing the Cap-
tain, said: "Your courageous action
is tantamount to a defeat of the
modern barbarians."

A procession escorted the Captain
and crew to luncheon at the Town
Hall, the crowds cheering and throw-
ing flowers.

THE DUMA RE-ASSEMBLES.

PETERSBURG, Feb. 27.

The Duma has re-assembled. A
few small street demonstrations were
dispersed.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER OFFICERS.

"MENTIONED" FOR SERVICES IN
THE WAR.

LONDON, Feb. 26.

The following Hongkong Volun-
teer Officers are mentioned in the
London Gazette for valuable services
in the war:—

Lieutenant-Colonel A. Chapman.
Major G. H. Walsman.
Surgeon-Major G. B. Black.
Captain E. J. Barret.
Captain G. K. H. Brutton.
Captain G. P. Lamherst.
Captain W. Russell.
Lieutenant R. Hall.
Armour-Sergeant G. W. Avenell.
Sergeant-Major F. L. Cooke.
Sergeant-Major W. Highy.
Sergeant-Major G. W. Kynoch.
Q.M.-Sergeant E. W. Dawson.
Sergeant H. F. Haines.
Sergeant W. J. Hill.

Also Captain L. E. Canning of the
Shanghai Volunteers and Major W.
S. Nathan.

FURTHER BRITISH PROGRESS.

LONDON, Feb. 27.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig

reports:—

We further progressed and captured

Le Banquet.

We occupied Ligny and established

ourselves in the western and northern

defences of Puisseux-Amont.

We raided to the south-west of Lens

and also eastward of Arras on a

front of half a mile, and entered three

lines of trenches, considerably damag-
ing the defences.

FRENCH PRESIDENT'S CONGRATULATIONS.

PARIS, Feb. 27.

President Poincaré has telegraphed
his congratulations to H.M. King
George on the splendid British
successes in France and at Kut-el-
Amara.

INCREASED PRICE OF LONDON PAPERS.

LONDON, Feb. 26.

The *Daily Mail* in increasing its
price to a penny and the price of the
Observer is increased to 2d.

(Continued on Page 5.)

BOYS AND BEETLES.

Mr. H. O. Lister, a science master at
Charterhouse, speaking recently at the
annual meeting of the Association of
Public School Science Masters, read the
following letter received from the parent
of a boy:—

I wonder if I may ask your co-operation
in regard to my son. I believe
you are the principal natural science
master and that he has been under
your tuition from time to time. The
boy's extraordinary liking for what I
regard as the most repulsive branch of
natural history—beetles, has been
increasing—a source of much disap-
pointment both to his mother and to
me. Can you, either directly or in-
directly, turn his mind to a higher and
more refined branch of the subject—
birds, trees, or flowers?
This sort of thing, he said, was a
serious embarrassment to many of the
boys who had to do useful work as
investigators.

COMPULSORY SERVICE.

REGISTRATION IN INDIA.

An Ordinance for the registration of
certain European British subjects was
gazetted at Delhi on February 27.
making it obligatory for every male
European British subject for the time
being in India (not being a member of
His Majesty's naval and military forces
under the Indian Volunteer Act 1905)
who, for the time being, has attained the
age of sixteen years and has not attained
the age of fifty years on February 1st,
1917, to register under the Ordinance.
Failure to comply is a fine extending
to Rs. 500.



Hughes & Hough

AUCTIONEERS TO THE GOVERNMENT.

General Auctioneers
Share, Coal and General Produce
Brokers and Commission
Agents.

PROPRIETORS
"To-Kwa-Wan" Coal Storage.

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Telegraphic Address

"MERITON" HONGKONG.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (for account of the concerned),

on

MONDAY,

the 5th March, 1917,
at 10.30 a.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8,
Des Vaux Road, Corner of
Ice House Street.

A Number of Lots of
GOLD AND DIAMOND JEWELLERY,
etc., etc.

Comprising—

Several Gold and Silver Watches,
Gold, Pearl, Diamond and Ruby Rings,
The Pins, Charms, Brooches, Earrings,
Studs, Gold Fountain Pens, Pearl
Necklet, etc., etc., etc.

Terms—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Feb. 28, 1917. 1539

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (for account of the concerned),

on

TUESDAY,

the 6th March, 1917, commencing
at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8,
Des Vaux Road, Corner of
Ice House Street.

**VALUABLE TEAKWOOD AND
BLACKWOOD FURNITURE,**
etc., etc.

As Follows—

Upholstered Suites, Arm-chairs and
Sofas, Card Tables, Bedroom Furniture,
comprising Double and Single Brass-
mounted Bedsteads, Tinner Bedsteads
(Teakwood), Sideboards, Dinner Waggon,
Extension Dining Tables and Chairs,
Tea and Occasional Tables, etc., Dinner
Services, Crockery, Glass Ware, Cooking
Stoves, Cutlery, Toilet Set, etc., Bath
Room Utensils, Roll-top Desks, and
Writing Tables, etc., Sundry Electro
Plated Ware.

Piano in good condition, Electric
Reading Standard Lamps, Blackwood
and Teakwood Screens, a quantity of
Blackwood Furniture, Engravings, etc.

Also
Tennis Poles and Netting, etc., etc.
Brass Finger Bowls, Carpets (New
and second hand), Child's Cots, etc.
(Full Particulars from Catalogue.)

Terms—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Feb. 21, 1917. 1519

PONIES! PONIES! PONIES!

PUBLIC ROUP.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Roup, on

WEDNESDAY,

the 7th March, 1917, at 3 p.m., at the
Fountain, opposite the City Hall.

A Large Number of
WELL-KNOWN RACE PONIES,
(Full Particulars from Catalogue.)

Terms—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Feb. 28, 1917. 1540

FOR SALE.

at their Sales Rooms, No. 8,
Des Vaux Road, Corner of
Ice House Street.

**SECOND HAND CONTRACTORS
PLANT.**

THEODOLITE AND LEVEL.
Full particulars may be had from the
undersigned.

Terms—As usual.
HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Feb. 1917. 1474

BETTER THAN QUININE FOR MALARIA.

Quinine does not cure Malaria. All it does is to bring relief for a time; it purges the system, but it does not remove the cause of the disease. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have cured completely many cases of Malaria. In Ceylon, Burma, Siam, in every part of the world where Malaria exists, cured sufferers will tell you so, that they owe the immunity they now enjoy from ague and fever entirely to this renowned specific.

The reason is that Malaria is a disease of the blood, is caused by the presence of myriads of parasites in the blood, and Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are the most perfect blood-purifying, blood-strengthening and blood-making remedy yet devised. Whilst dispelling the malarial germs they build up the system, thus giving it the power to withstand further attacks of the disease.

If you are a victim of Malaria you can begin your own cure to-day by sending to the nearest medicine vendor for a bottle of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. They are also obtainable, post free, 1 bottle for \$1.50, 6 bottles for \$8.50, from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 98 Szechuen Road, Shanghai.

For all malarial troubles to weak impure blood or disordered nerves, such as Anaemia, Nervous Debility, Indigestion, Back-pains, these pills are of the utmost value. Ladies everywhere tell one another of their efficacy for women's aches and ills.

INTIMATIONS

SITUATION WANTED.

YOUNG AMERICAN, willing and industrious, good references, seeks employment any capacity.—Apply

C/o CHINA MAIL Office,
Hongkong, Feb. 20, 1917. 1515

FOR SALE

YACHT FOR SALE. The Gael Class Yacht "THEOLA" Available Middle of March. 23.50. Lieut. Col. A. V. ALEXANDER, 74 Purbajia, Kowloon. Hongkong, Feb. 24, 1917. 1529

SILIMPON (SEBATTIK) COAL.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the COWIE HARBOUR COAL CO., LTD., are prepared to quote prices for best quality SILIMPON COAL (either cargo or Bonkers) are exempt from payment of all Port charges.

SILIMPON COAL compares favourably with the better grades of Japanese Coal and gives good results on a very moderate consumption.

Steamers calling at SEBATTIK or SANDAKAN exclusively for SILIMPON COAL (either cargo or Bonkers) are exempt from payment of all Port charges.

At Sebatik Steamers are berthed alongside the Company's wharf where there is a minimum depth of 27 to 28 feet at low water Spring Tides.

Charges of Sibuku Bay (Sebatik Harbour). Prices and all other information concerning the Port can be had on application to the Agents.

BRADLEY & CO., LTD.,
Agents Cowie Harbour Coal Company, Limited. 1927

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE INSURANCE CO.

IN WHICH ARE VESTED THE SHARES OF THE OCEAN MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, LTD., and THE RAILWAY PASSENGERS ASSURANCE CO.

TOTAL FUNDS at 31st December, 1914, £23,970,367.

—Authorized Capital £8,000,000
—Subscribed Capital £4,500,000
—Paid-up Capital £2,437,500
—Life and Annuity £1,111,583

—Revenue Marine Department £37,529
—Other Receipts £48,949
—Total £25,359,222

The Accumulative Funds of the various Branches are separately invested, and the claims under the respective Departments of the Company's Business.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
Agents.

EUROPEAN AGENCY.

WHOLESALE Importers promptly executed at lowest cash prices for all British and Continental goods, including

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Commission 2½ to 5%.
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Special Quotations on Demand.
Sample Cases from £10 upwards.
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25, Abchurch Lane, LONDON, E.C. 4.
Cable Address: "WILLIAMSON LONDON."

SIR J. JELICOE ON THE NAVY.

SUBMARINES AND TORPEDOES.

Admiral Sir John R. Jellicoe on 11th January made his first public appearance as First Sea Lord of the Admiralty, the occasion being the presentation to him of the Honorary Freedom of the Fishmongers' Company.

At the luncheon, after the Acting Prime Minister had proposed the health of Sir John Jellicoe, Commander Sir Trevor Dawson, B.N., referring to the freedom of the Fishmongers' Company, said that Earl St. Vincent had had a similar honour conferred on him about 100 years ago, and mentioned the close analogy between Earl St. Vincent's career and that of Sir John Jellicoe. Earl St. Vincent during his occupancy of high office at the Admiralty did great service in building up our fleet and in training our officers and men for those glorious victories which culminated at Trafalgar. Moreover he fought with consummate skill and courage several of our naval battles which were effective preludes to Trafalgar. Sir John Jellicoe had filled the same roles with no less conspicuous ability and intrepidity.

Sir John Jellicoe, in reply, said:—

I cannot express adequately my great appreciation of the high honour you have conferred upon me, and I would like to believe that you have thus distinguished me as a representative of that great Service to which I belong, and as a recognition, also, of the value of the work that has been done with so much of heroism and untiring vigilance as well as unfaltering patriotism by every officer and man of the Navy during these strenuous two and a half years. The Acting Prime Minister has enhanced the honour to me in drawing some parallel between the services of Lord St. Vincent and myself. I feel that I cannot claim comparison with that great man. We of this generation owe a great debt to the naval strategists of the past. I have studied with great profit and admiration their guiding principles of strategy, and have been influenced by the high devotion to duty of Lord St. Vincent and others who laid the foundations of Britain's naval greatness.

There are great differences between the conditions of to-day and 100 years ago. These lie in the greater speed of ships, in the longer range of guns, in the menace of the torpedo as fired from ships, destroyers and submarines, and the menace of mines, the use of aircraft as scouts and of wireless telegraphy. In the Napoleonic era the ships opened fire with guns at ranges of about 800 yards; the ships of to-day open fire at 22,000 yards (or 11 nautical miles) range, and gunfire begins to be very effective at 18,000 yards. The torpedo as fired from surface vessels is effective certainly up to 10,000 yards range, and this requires that a ship shall keep beyond this distance to fight her guns. As the conditions of visibility in the North Sea particularly are frequently such as to make fighting difficult beyond a range of 10,000 yards, and as modern fleets are invariably accompanied by very large numbers of destroyers, whose main duty is to attack with torpedo the heavy ships of the enemy, it will be recognized how great becomes the responsibility of the Admiral in command of a fleet, particularly under the conditions of low visibility to which I have referred. As soon as destroyers tumble upon a fleet within torpedo range, the situation becomes critical for the heavy ships.

INFLUENCE OF THE SUBMARINE.

The submarine is another factor which has changed the situation, as this class of vessel, combined with the use of mines, entirely prevents the close blockade restored to in former days. In addition these two weapons add greatly to the anxieties of those in command. It is one thing to fight an enemy that you can see; it is a different matter to deal with a hidden foe. Thus modern conditions add immensely in this respect to the responsibility of those commanding fleets. They cannot get warning of the enemy being at sea until the enemy is well at sea. Nelson watching Villeneuve off

Cadiz had his inshore squadron close into the enemy's port, and could see what was actually going on inside that port. The British Fleet of to-day, watching the German High Seas Fleet, is not in the same happy position. The further the watching ships are from the enemy's port the greater is the facility with which the enemy can escape and the greater is the difficulty of intercepting him. There was never any likelihood in the olden days of the enemy's fleet escaping unseen, unless the blockading squadron was forced from its watching position by bad weather, which, of course, occasionally occurred. In our day submarines and mines compel the watching force to take up their station further and further away.

In spite of this, and in spite of the German boast as to the occasions on which the German fleet has searched the North Sea for the British Fleet, our enemies have only on one occasion ventured sufficiently far with their Main Fleet to give us an opportunity to engage them. No vessels, neutral or British, have sighted the High Sea Fleet far from its ports on any other occasion. It is true that on 19th August last year the enemy's fleet came within measurable distance of the English coast, being sighted by some of our patrols, but turned back, presumably because the presence of our Fleet was reported by their aircraft. Raids on the British coast with fast cruisers or battle cruisers have been carried out, but on each occasion the passage from German waters has been made apparently under cover of the night, the enemy appearing off our coast at dawn and retiring before comparatively small forces. Such feats were of course impossible in the days of slow speed, and are now undertaken for other than the purpose of enticing us into the adoption of a false strategy by breaking up our forces to guard all vulnerable points. I do not criticise the Germans for their strategy or for not running any risks with their fleet. On the other hand their coast of searching the North Sea for the enemy must be pronounced as without justifiable basis.

SCOPE OF NAVAL ACTIVITY.

The next point to which I would like to draw your attention has reference to the wide nature of the war in relation to the British Navy. It is not perhaps always realized how far-reaching are our naval activities, and how great, therefore, is the call on our naval resources. It may be interesting to state that the approximate number of vessels of all classes which comprise the British Navy of to-day is nearly 4,000. This includes battleships, battle-cruisers, light cruisers, destroyers, submarine boats, mine-sweepers, patrol boats, and many other miscellaneous craft, all of which are necessary for the effective conduct of a war of to-day. Our activities range from the White Sea, where we are doing our best to assist our gallant Russian Allies, past the North and South Atlantic, where cruiser squadrons are at work, on to the Indian Ocean, where we are co-operating with our Japanese Allies. On the West Coast of Africa the Navy took no inconsiderable share in the fighting in the Cameroons. In the Mediterranean the Navy took a hand in the operations against the enemy, assisted by our gallant French Allies, and is now working with both the French and Italian Navies in the Balkan campaign and in the Adriatic. On the East Coast of Africa the naval forces including our river gunboats, monitors, and aircraft, have rendered service to our kinsmen from the Union of South Africa. In the Persian Gulf and up the Tigris River numerous river gunboats and other vessels are assisting our Army in the Mesopotamian campaign. Our East India Squadron, which is working from Port Said through the Canal and Red Sea, is helping the Army of Egypt and safeguarding communications with India, and thence to Far Eastern waters.

In the early days of the war the Navy was pleased and honoured to work along with the Army and the Air Force in the capture of Kiao-chau. In fact, it may be said that there is no part of the world in which the Navy has not duties and responsibilities in connection with this war, and I might draw attention to the duties and continuing work of the Cruiser Squadrons at home waters, which is mainly engaged in preventing supplies from reaching our enemies. Ships are intercepted and boarded in great numbers under every condition of weather, and some idea of the work may be gathered from the fact that an average of some 80 ships of all kinds are intercepted and examined weekly, on the high seas by the vessels of this Squadron.

The task of keeping the large number of ships working in all parts of the world, of supplying them with fuel, munitions, and victuals, can only be met by those in possession of all the facts. The work, too, involves a great effort on the part of the mercantile marine. Without our mercantile-marine the Navy—and, indeed, the nation—could not exist. Upon it we have been dependent for the movement of our troops, our stores, our seven millions of men having been transported—along with all the guns, munitions, and stores required by the Army. The safeguarding of these transports both from the attack of such patrol and machine-gunning craft, and from submarine attack has been carried out by the Navy. We have had to draw also upon the personnel of the mercantile marine, not only for the manning of the transport ships, but also very largely for the manning of the whole of our patrol and machine-gunning craft, nearly 5,000 skippers being employed as skippers, R.N.R. The number of R.N.R. executive officers has increased almost fourfold since the outbreak of war. Indeed, it is impossible to measure fully the debt which the country owes to our mercantile marine.

In the old days it used to be said that there was jealousy between the mercantile marine and the Royal Navy, but whatever may have been the case then, there is no room now in the Navy for anything but the most friendly administration and respect for the officers and men of the mercantile marine. I think I know sufficient of those officers and men to believe that the feeling is reciprocated. Those of us who have been closely associated with the officers and men who man our armed merchant vessels and patrol craft have realized from the first day of the war how magnificent were their services, how courageous their conduct, and how unflinching their devotion to duty under the most dangerous conditions. The value of the services of the officers and men of the mercantile marine goes far beyond their work in armed vessels. When one thinks of the innumerable cases of un-

armed ships being sunk by torpedo or gun fire far from land, in a heavy sea, with the ship's company dependent upon boats alone for their safety, one is lost in admiration of the spirit of heroism of those who not only endure dangers and hardships without complaint, but are ever ready to take the risks again and again in repeated voyages in other ships.

THE SUBMARINE MENACE.
The submarine menace to the merchant service is far greater now than at any period of the war, and it requires all our energy to combat it. It must and will be dealt with; of that I am confident. But we have to make good our inevitable losses, and in order to do this we are dependent upon the shipbuilding industry of this country. The munitions organisation has done a great work for the output of munitions; it now remains for the shipbuilders and marine engineers to rival that work. The first essential is the whole-hearted co-operation of the men in the shipbuilding yards and in the engineering shops in the same way as Sir Douglas Haig has appealed to the munition workers to give up holidays and to devote themselves to the supply of those munitions which are essential for the safety and success of their country in the trenches. I now appeal to the men in the shipyards and engineering shops to put forth their best efforts continuously and ungrudgingly to keep up the strength of our mercantile marine, and to provide those gallant fellows, who have gone through innumerable dangers and hardships when their ships have been sunk, with new vessels to carry on the transport of the necessary supplies of food and materials for the manhood and the industries of the country. As one recognizes more than I do how great has been the output of the shipyards up to the present time, I would only say now that there be no question of strikes, no bad time keeping, no slackening; and let masters and men remember how great is their responsibility, not only to their Navy and the nation, but also to their Allies.

Before I leave this subject, may I presume to remind the shipbuilding companies of the privilege which is theirs to see that some provision is made out of war profits for the wives and children of the gallant fellows who have given their lives for their country, when their ships have been sunk, as truly as those who have lost their lives in the battle line! It is not for me to make suggestions, but I venture to say that the hearts of the officers and men would be lightened in the continued presence of danger and the recurring possibilities of disaster if they knew that those they may leave behind them would be cared for and educated.

SPIRIT OF THE NAVY.

In this happy survey of the naval side of war, I have not as yet said a word on the point which is really nearest to my heart, and that is the subject of the spirit of the officers and men of the Fleet of which I have so recently given up the command. During two and a half years of war the endeavour to keep that Fleet at a high pitch of efficiency has necessitated strenuous and unceasing effort on the part of every one connected with the Fleet either afloat or ashore. I said at the outset of my remarks that conditions affecting naval warfare differed to-day from those of a hundred years ago. The change, almost exclusively to material, and is due to advances in applied science, which have brought vast progress, almost revolutionary change, to the Navy as to other departments of activity. In some cases these changes have been demanded if it is the only means of settling differences; in other respects they are reprehensible, and have been vainly used by our enemies. There has, however, been little change in our men, except in the development of higher principles of mental alertness, and of moral rectitude. No one could ask for a finer personnel than we have in the Navy. Education has enabled every man to arrive at a just appreciation of the justice of our cause, to conduct himself as becomes a man, fighting for the freedom of the smaller nations, and for the liberation of humanity from the threatened thralldom of military slavery.

Can there be any doubt of the issue when this fundamental belief is associated, as it is, with all-pervading patriotism and undying loyalty to the nation, and that we and our Allies have in view? Every man in the Navy is eager and prepared to do his duty. He asks, and he is entitled by his services and sacrifices to ask, that the nation shall do its part by working with us and denying shelter to our enemies, and sailors so that there may be provided that great variety and enormous volume of material which is required for the fighting forces, and that all men and all women shall by practising strict economy render possible the maintenance of adequate financial aid. If we do all our part all will be well with us. Of one prominent fact I can speak with full confidence born of experience—the nation can depend on the Navy being ready, resourceful, and reliable.—Times.

AMERICAN PASTOR FOR LONDON.

Great pressure has been brought to bear upon the Rev. J. Fort Newton, D.D., of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, to remain in America, but he has definitely decided to begin his ministry at the City Temple in the spring.

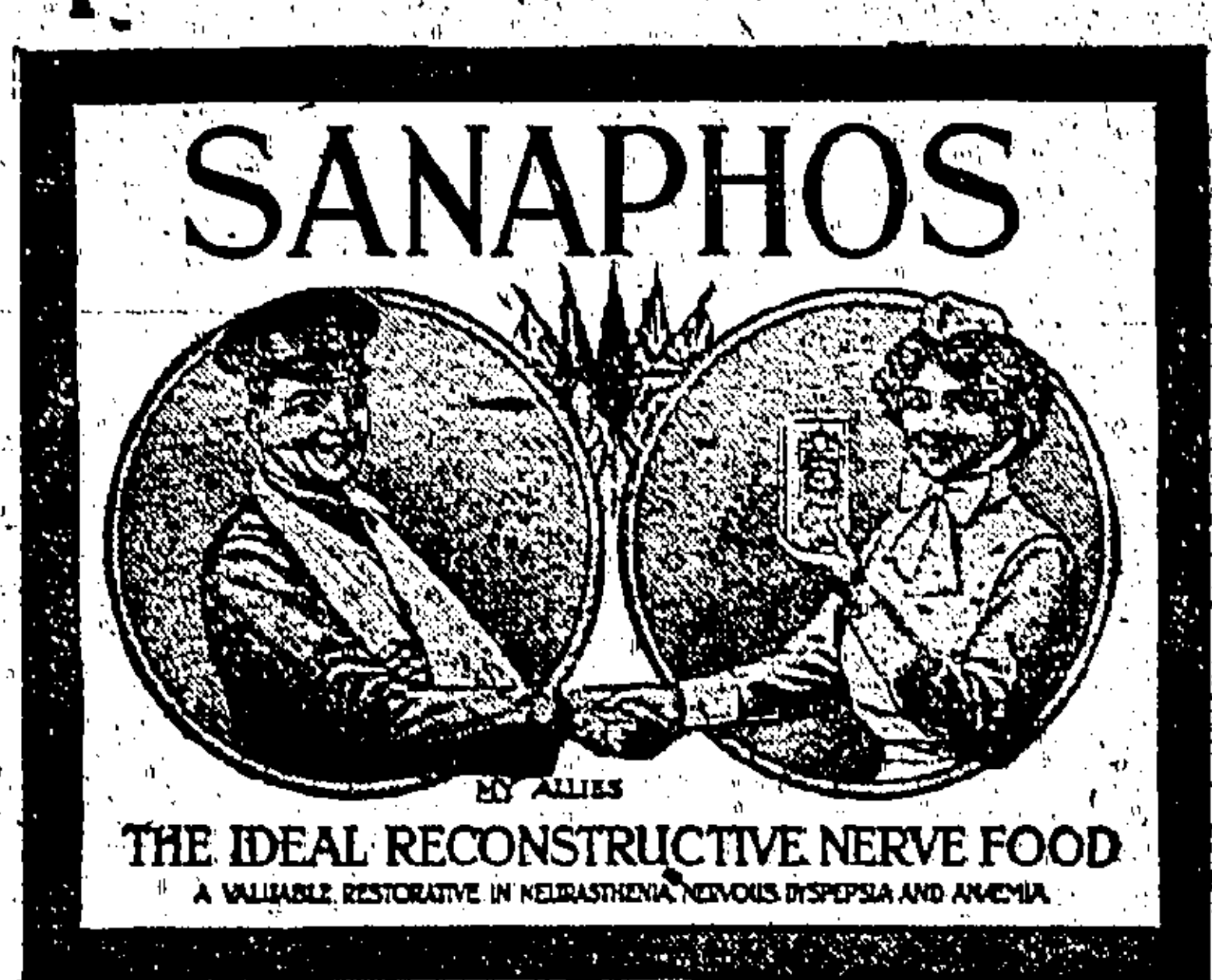
At the City Temple it is announced that a meeting of the church and congregation will be held on Thursday evening, when an important letter will be read, addressed by Dr. Fort Newton to the officers, members and friends of the City Temple.

A FAMILY NECESSITY.

EVERY family should be provided with Chamberlain's Pain-Balm at all times. Sprains may be cured in much less time when promptly treated. Lambs back, lame shoulder, pains in the side and chest and rheumatic pains are some of the diseases for which it is especially valuable. Try this balm and become acquainted with its qualities and you will never again be without it. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

INTIMATIONS

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"Sanaphos" supplies the element which is needed by our nerves and brain and which is not supplied in sufficient quantity by our ordinary food. Thus it is an ideal food for nourishing and strengthening the nerves, and for correcting all the many ills which result from weakness of those nerves which govern all the working of the body.

Moreover "Sanaphos" contains other food elements which at once are assimilated to make tissue and energy. It is wholly digestible, a fact which distinguishes it from earlier and less highly perfected products. The Chairman of the Company making "Sanaphos" is Sir William Taylor, M.D., Surgeon-General of the Forces.

"Sanaphos" is sold by all Chemists. Stocks are held by and requests for samples should be addressed to—Fletcher & Co., 25 The Queen's Dispensary, Hong Kong.
Wholesale Distributors for India and Far East—Dolphin Brand, Ltd., 111, Market Street, London, England.

A Double Safeguard.

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on the Red label, and see also that the name LEA & PERRINS is embossed in raised letters on the glass bottle.

LEA & PERRINS' label and bottle are copied to such an extent that these precautions are necessary, in order to make sure that you are being supplied with the original and genuine Worcestershire and not one of its many imitations.

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Biliousness, Sick Headache, Constipation, Errors in Diet—Eating or Drinking, Thirst, Giddiness, Rheumatic or Gouty Pains, Feverish Cold, with High Temperature, and Quick Pulse, and Feverish Conditions generally. It is everything you could wish as a simple and Natural Health-Giving Agent.

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VETARZO BLOOD MEDICINE

Hereafter there is nothing like it, nor can its marvelous properties ever be equalled in all cases of disease, impurity, or other imperfection of the blood from whatever cause arising. It is a powerful purifier of the system, and is permeated and penetrates to the minutest capillaries, overcoming and expelling disease, wherever and in whatever form not with removing all blotches, pimples, warts, scurf, scrofulous and glandular swellings, dislocations, corns, and unsightly patches, etc. Its effects are almost magical in the treatment of gout, rheumatism, neuralgia, sciatica, and all other forms of the blood, including blood poison, scrofula, leprosy, psoriasis, had legs, bad breath, skin eruptions, ulcers, wounds, sores, scabs, and other diseases, it improves the general health, and quickly removes long-standing bronchitis, asthma, and hiccups, restores the system to its normal state, and gives the pleasure of consumption.

VETARZO BLOOD AND NERVE FOOD. See next page for full particulars. Send stamped addressed envelope to J. C. ENO, Ltd., 'Fruit Salt' Works, London, England, and you will receive a free trial bottle of either remedy. Send 10p. for the VETARZO BLOOD MEDICINE. Send 10p. for the VETARZO BLOOD AND NERVE FOOD. Do not attempt to buy it from a chemist or druggist. The genuine has the words "VETARZO BLOOD MEDICINE" on Government Stamp.

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HONGKONG AND CHINA.



To-day's Advertisements

HONGKONG GYMNASIA CLUB.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of Members will be held on MONDAY, March 5th, at the Rooms of the Jockey Club, Hongkong Club Annex, at 5.15 P.M.
Hongkong, March 1, 1917. 1545

HONGKONG HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL SHOW OF FLOWERS and VEGETABLES, to be held in the Botanic Gardens.
THURSDAY, the 8th March, at 2 to 5 p.m.
Admission \$1.00.
LADY MAY will present the Prizes at 5 p.m.
FRIDAY, the 9th March, at 10.30 to 3 p.m.
Admission 50 cents.
at 3 to 5 p.m.
Admission 20 cents.
The Band of the 18th Punjab will play on both days. Tea will be obtainable on the Ground.
A. NICOL, Hon. Secretary.
Hongkong, March 1, 1917. 1543

THE DIARY

General Memoranda.

SATURDAY, March 3:—H.K. Jockey Club Race Meeting 'Off Day.'
MONDAY, March 5:—10.30 a.m.—Auction of Jewellery Watches etc. at Messrs. Hughes and Hough's.
5.15 p.m.—Meeting of Members of H.K. Gymkhana Club.
WEDNESDAY, March 7:—10.30 a.m.—Meeting at Government House of Ladies interested in War Work.
3 p.m.—Auction of Race Ponies outside City Hall.
THURSDAY & FRIDAY, March 8—H.K. Society's Annual Flower and Vegetable Show.
SATURDAY, March 10:—11.30 a.m.—Hongkong Rope Co's Meeting.

THE CHINA MAIL.

NOTICE.

Communications relating to news should be addressed to THE EDITOR.
Correspondents must forward their names and addresses with any communication addressed to the Editor, not necessarily for publication but as evidence of good faith.
All matter for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.
Letters relating to business should be addressed to THE MANAGER.
Date of subscription to "China Mail" is \$36 per annum; per quarter and per month as follows.
The "China Mail" is delivered free to subscribers in Hongkong and Kowloon.
Postage is charged at the rate of fifty cents per month.
Orders for extra copies of the "China Mail" should be sent as soon as possible as the supply is limited. Cash 10 cts., Credit 20 cts., per copy.
Date of subscription to the "Overland China Mail" is \$12 per annum; postage \$1 per annum extra. Single copies twenty five cents each.
Advertisements and additions to Advertisements on Pages 2, 3, 4, and 5 should be sent to the Office, No. 5, Wyndham Street, not later than 11.30 a.m.
Alterations and additions to Advertisements on pages 1, 4, 5 and 8 should be sent not later than 1 p.m.
New Advertisements should be sent in before 2 p.m.
Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until countermanded.
Telephone Address: "MAIL" Hongkong, Code A.B.O. 5th Edition.
Telephone No. 27.
THE CHINA MAIL, LIMITED.

But the Somme battle has placed beyond doubt the ability of the Allies to gain these objects. The German Army is the mainstay of the Central Powers, and a full half of that Army, despite all the advantages of the defensive, supported by the strongest fortifications, suffered defeat on the Somme this year. Neither victors nor the vanquished will forget this; and, though bad weather has given the enemy a respite, there will undoubtedly be many thousands in his ranks who will begin the new campaign with little confidence in their ability to resist our assaults or to overcome our defence. Our new Army entered the battle with the determination to win and with confidence in their power to do so. They have proved to themselves, to the enemy, and to the world that this confidence was justified, and in the fierce struggle they have been through they have learned many valuable lessons which will help them in the future. The German retirement in the Valley of the Aisne is a recognition by the enemy of his inability to resist the assaults of the British Army which were impending there, and also of his inability to overcome our defence, and it must confirm and strengthen, if that be possible, the faith which the Allies feel in their ability to win in this terrific struggle.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Normal cable communication with North and South America, etc., via Pacific, is now restored.

The official estimates of the Burma cotton crop for the year 1916-17 show an increase of over 60 per cent. on last year's yield.

It is reported that a recent meeting of Chinese merchants, bankers, and other business men in Tientsin City resolved to withdraw all monies lodged with the German Bank in Tientsin.

As advertised in another column the Hongkong Gymkhana Club are holding their annual meeting in the Offices of the Hongkong Jockey Club on Monday evening next.

THE WAR NEWS.

In the successes achieved by British arms in the Valley of the Aisne and in Mesopotamia we have the best of evidence that solid reasons exist for the belief generally shared by the Allies that the year 1917 will see the final triumph of their arms. No one will be deceived—least of all the enemy's troops—by the explanations that the retreats are merely "strategic retirements." It is impossible to believe that the retreating troops in the region of the Aisne can view the retirement as anything but a confession of British superiority, and it is hardly likely to strengthen their courage which it is amply testified in thousands of captured letters was very badly shaken by the operations on the Somme front last Summer, for they experienced then the effects of "a continuous artillery assault from a greater number of guns, firing an enormously greater number of high explosives than was ever employed before by any army in the world"—and they have constantly since been afforded foretastes of what is to come when the weather conditions are favourable for the commencement of the offensive in real earnest. The Somme operations established the fact of our superiority in material, and they steadily undermined the courage and determination of the German troops. The constantly increasing pressure on the Germans which has since been maintained has probably told as much on the German morale as on the German defences. It is obvious that the German retreat gives very considerable advantages—material, moral and scientific—to our troops. We may very appropriately recall in this connection the closing words of Sir Douglas Haig's historic despatch on the Somme operations. "The enemy's power," wrote the Commander-in-Chief of the British Army, "has not yet been broken; nor is it yet possible to form an estimate of the time the war may last before the objects for which the Allies are fighting have been attained."

THE MAGISTRACY.

A PICKPOCKET'S TRICK.

Before Mr. Melbourne this morning a coachman from Annam deposed that while looking into a shop window in Des Vaux Road yesterday a man picked his jacket pocket of a purse containing \$5.60. He seized the pickpocket but the thief managed to pass the stolen purse to a confederate who ran away. The coachman, however, delivered his prisoner into the custody of the Police and appeared as complainant against him. The defendant pleaded not guilty to the charge of pocket picking, stating that he was but one of a crowd standing in front of the shop window and the complainant had probably seized him by mistake.

ALLEGED THEFT OF A TELESCOPE.

Two employees of the Military Hospital appeared before Mr. Melbourne this morning, one charged with the larceny of a telescope and the other with receiving stolen property.

It was alleged that the first defendant stole a telescope from Corporal Andrew Gilechrist, R.A.M.C., at the Military Hospital and sold it to the second defendant for twenty cents.

The first defendant pleaded not guilty to the charge but admitted having taken the telescope, stating that he had believed it to be broken and of no further use to the owner.

The second defendant stated that he was told that the telescope had been given to the first defendant.

ANOTHER ARMS AND AMMUNITION CASE.

The chief cook and two stewards of a Japanese ship were charged before Mr. J. R. Wood this morning, with the illegal possession of arms and ammunition.

Sergeant Fincott stated that nine revolvers and 4,000 rounds of ammunition had been discovered in one of the ship's storerooms in charge of the defendants.

The defendants pleaded not guilty to the offence and stated that they knew nothing of the contraband found in the storeroom.

ALLEGED VICTIM OF A CONSPIRACY.

A Chinese appeared before Mr. Wood this morning in answer to a charge of pocket picking. The defendant, who was represented by Mr. Grist, said that he was falsely charged and stated that he was the victim of a conspiracy between the complainant and the watchman who had arrested him. He then explained that while in a crowded market at the races the complainant approached him, thrust some money into his jacket pocket and called the watchman to arrest him. The defendant's story, however, did not satisfy the Magistrate, who sentenced the alleged victim of a conspiracy to three months' hard labour.

AN OPIUM CASE.

In Mr. Wood's Court this afternoon, a Chinese pleaded guilty to the charge of having in his possession 65 taels of prepared opium other than Government opium and 50 taels of opium dross, not being Government opium.

Mr. Crew, of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings, who appeared as solicitor for the defendant, said that the defendant had arrived on a steamer which recently came in port and although he admitted that he intended to take the opium into China he was not informed that the drug was contraband in Hongkong.

Evidence having been heard, His Worship imposed a fine of \$2,500, for the possession of the prepared opium, or in default of payment a sentence of six months' hard labour, and for the possession of the opium dross, a fine of \$500 or as an alternative, three months' hard labour.

On account of the diplomatic crisis, the Peking Gazette says, the Chinese Government has deemed it necessary to set up a number of new wireless telegraph stations in ten different strategic ports along the sea coast, including Chingwangtao, Taku and Chungmu. Surveying parties have been sent to these places for this purpose.

WEDDING AT THE CATHEDRAL.

CHAMPKIN—WILSON.

At St. John's Cathedral this afternoon, in the presence of many friends, Mr. Cyril Champkin, manager of the Mercantile Bank in Hongkong, son of Mr. James Hedges Champkin of Eastbourne, was married to Constance (Gwendoline) Wilson, only child of Mr. John Boswell Guy Wilson of Pakefield, Suffolk, the service being taken by the Rev. V. H. Copley Moly.

The bride, who was given away by Mr. Evan Ormiston, wore a dress of Georgette embroidered in silver over chiffon.

The bridesmaids were Miss Angel Ormiston and the Misses Joyce and Dorothy Holyoak. Their dresses were of white net with yellow sashes, and they wore white net hats with true "lovers' knots" in yellow panne, and carried baskets of daffodils.

The best man was Lieut. L. Murphy, H.E.V.C.

The service was choral and included the hymns "Thine for ever God of Love" and "O Perfect Love," and the Wedding March was played by Mr. Denman Fuller as the bridal party left the Church.

The attendances at the wedding included the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., the Hon. Mr. Claud Savary, C.M.G., Mr. N. J. Stubb, the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Shellen, Mr. T. F. Hough, D.S.P. (R.), Captain Cassel, Colonel Chapman, V.D., and nearly all the bridegroom's fellow officers in the Volunteer Corps.

As the bridal party left the Church the officers lined up and made an arch of swords.

The reception was held at "Derlington," Peak Road, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Ormiston, where a large number of friends joined in wishing the bride and bridegroom every happiness and prosperity.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE LATE MR. A. H. HEWITT.

(To the Editor of the "China Mail.")

Sir, As his friend here for 27 years I would express my appreciation of the late Mr. Hewitt whose death through accident at the Kowloon Cement Works you recently reported.

Trained as a Marine Engineer at Messrs. Maudslays, Mr. Hewitt came to Hongkong 30 years ago, and for 28 years was in the employ of the Green Island Cement Co. Ltd., first as Chief Engineer of their Macao Works, and later as Superintendent Engineer of the Company's business when the large additional factory at Kowloon was built. When Mr. Hewitt joined the Company its affairs were in very low water, the shares having a nominal quotation of only \$1.00, but Mr. Hewitt whose abilities soon became known, declined other tempting offers and devoted his life to the success of the Company. His answer to one such offer was: "I will not leave the Cement Company until I see it a success." These words ran 24 hours daily, and for 28 years Mr. Hewitt lived in the Works and gave the business day and night his closest personal attention. He lived to see the Company a success and lost his life in its service.

He was a man of extraordinary natural ability and of brilliant attainments; cheerful and resourceful in all circumstances and of untiring industry; wise, just and generous. He counted not mere monetary success, but valued only Duty, Honour, and the best use of his talents.

Many who read these lines will remember his counsel and kindly help ever at the service of his friends. During the War Mr. Hewitt has given all his means to his country's service and his scanty leisure to the Kowloon Section of the Police Reserve, the success of which is chiefly due to his tact, example, and constant attention. He was a man, and a gentleman in the highest sense, a true knight without fear or reproach, and he commanded the respect and love of his friends and subordinates who feel they have now lost one who cannot be replaced, but who will never forget A. H. Hewitt and his splendid example of unselfish work and devotion.

W. S. BAILEY.

AT THE FRONT.

EXPERIENCES OF A HONGKONG VOLUNTEER.

The following interesting extracts are from a letter written by Mr. F. Sydenham Dixon, formerly of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, to Mr. C. E. H. Beavis:—

A line or two to let you know that I am at present quartered in a dug-out somewhere on the Western Front and have, so far, managed to elude the intermittent shell-fire.

I crossed on Christmas Eve, along with about 600 other officers of all ranks, and of all sorts and sizes. In my journey to the dug-out I continually ran across "China hands." At one of the Transport Officers seized me by the hand and he turned out to be a fellow named Storrie, who used to be in the Peuk Hotel, and Hamilton of the China Light and Power. On the wharf at a man waved to me. He was Major Walsfield, whom I last saw on the Falls' verandah. In the club at I met Richardson of B. and S. who used to be in the Scouts Co. In our mess at the Base I saw a lot of letters, with the Hongkong postmark, lying for Reggie Stokes. I left a note for him, but did not meet him, as he was away somewhere.

I was kept two days at the Base; we were kept at it all day doing bombing and bayonet-fighting. I got orders to join the — and spent a whole day in the train, playing bridge in a cattle truck with some officers. At night I was billeted above a butcher's shop in a small French town. As neither the butcher's wife nor I spoke each other's language, our conversation was limited.

I reached our camp the following afternoon, and found that the battalion was about to move up to the trenches. Our march was about seven miles; we began by daylight, but finished up in darkness—with French guides directing us. The country looks somewhat curious, as every farm and church we passed had been smashed to pieces. All the peasantry have fled from it, and the only things one meets are soldiers, Red Cross waggons, gun carriages, and lorries.

I share my dug-out with two officers. In private life, one is a Government official from Kuala Lumpur, and the other is a London solicitor. There is just room to stand upright in the dug-out; we have three camp beds, and a table. After many gallant efforts, our orderlies managed to light a fire. The place is lit by candles all day, and one feels rather like a rabbit.

The men live in two adjoining dug-outs. I take my hat off, metaphorically, to Tommy Atkins every time I see him. He looks extraordinary in his tin helmet, his gas mask, and his very maddy uniform; but he is always cheerful and seems ready for anything.

The feature, to my mind, of the new Army is its youth. One meets any amount of captains aged 20. Our General is 33, and was a Captain before the war. He lives in the cellar of a rather fine chateau. The place has escaped the universal shelling, as it is surrounded by trees. It dates from Louis XIV and has a splendid banqueting hall with coats of arms on its walls.

All day and all night—with intervals—one listens to the music of the big guns. No one is allowed to be without his gas mask slung round him, and elaborate precautions are taken in case of a gas attack.

The life is not a bad one, and at times it has an extremely amusing side. We are always dirty, we are always slopping about in mud; and we usually sleep with our clothes on. One seems to get used to these discomforts, and in spite of the damp, one feels extremely well. I get a lot of amusement out of it and wouldn't be missing it for anything. One meets so many types of men, and they seem to have come from all parts of the world.

Au revoir, and every New Year wish to yourself and all in W. and G.

The Swiss Minister (M. Lardy), in a speech at the Sorbonne on January 12th, said that all the sons of Switzerland had pledged themselves to shrink from nothing in defence of their independence and their trusty army was guarding the frontier against all comers.

RUB IT IN.

A good many people think rheumatism can't be cured without taking Chamberlain's Pain Balm. Chamberlain's Pain Balm has cured far more rheumatism than any internal remedy in existence and gives relief quicker. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

"GERMAN OFFICIALS" IN BRITISH CONSULATES.

MR. WILE'S REPLY TO SIR JOHN JORDAN.

Mr. F. W. Wile of the Daily Mail staff on January 17th, sent the following rejoinder to the Times in reply to the repudiation from Sir John Jordan that at the outbreak of the war "30 British Consuls in China were Germans":—"I desire to take the earliest possible opportunity to say that I was misinformed by the person who caused me to state that at the outbreak of war as many as 30 British Consuls in China were Germans. He appears to have been equally mistaken in alleging that many appointments in the Chinese Customs Service vacated by Britons who came home to fight are now filled by Germans. I regret exceedingly having given publicity, even on a single occasion, to such misleading utterances. I need hardly add that they will not be repeated in future deliveries of my lecture on 'Germany's Mobilization for Peace.'

It is possible that my misinformant may have been deceived into thinking that there were Germans in the British Consular Service in China by the officially acknowledged fact that in July, 1914, there were hundreds of foreigners, including dozens of Germans and Austrians or Hungarians, in that service. Among them were the "British" Consul-General in Munich and Frankfurt-on-the-Main. My misinformant may even have had in mind that up to within two or three years of the war the "British" Consul-General in Berlin itself was not only a German banker, but chairman of the board of the notorious Wolff News Agency. In Vienna Herr Paul von Schoeller was for many years "British" Consul-General. The Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom, in a report adopted December 6, 1915, states that it understands that before the war over 40 per cent. of the unsalaried British Consular officers were of foreign nationality. The association understands that at present "some 29 per cent." of the officers of the "British" Consular Service are foreigners, and that of those officers who are unpaid 44 cent. are foreigners.

CRITICISMS OF CONSULAR SERVICE IN CHINA.

If "A British Consul in China" and Sir John Jordan, British Minister in Peking, had not, in contradicting my statements, insinuated in letters to you, Sir, that I was "stabbing the British Consular Service in China 'in the back,'" I should not have been induced to investigate, as I have done, what the British mercantile world thinks of their claims that the service is beyond reproach.

Before the Royal Commission on the Civil Service, which sat from May 8 to May 12, 1914, the secretary of the London Chamber of Commerce, testifying officially on behalf of that organization, said:—

Recently the Far Eastern section of the Chamber of Commerce had before it complaints referring to definite cases in which it was alleged that certain firms, so far from receiving from local British Consuls that assistance which French and German houses so readily obtained from their Consuls had actually been handicapped, by the action of their national representatives. The section did not desire to approach the Foreign Office with regard to any particular instance, but simply to record their unanimous opinion that, speaking generally, the British Consular Service in China does not support the British mercantile community there to the extent which the latter has a right to expect, and which indeed is essential to them if they are to hold their own in the constantly increasing competition from French, German, American, and other foreign commercial houses. The section were therefore desirous that a communication should be sent to the Foreign Office emphasizing the necessity of British Consular officers in China assisting British commerce there to a greater extent and with more sympathy and enthusiasm than in the past."

Before me, as I write, is a report just received by the Anglo-Chinese Engineers' Association (Limited) from its managing director in China, dated Peking, December 12, 1916. He declares that "to date the British Government has made no protest" against a palpable German scheme, which he describes, for robbing Manchester of its traditional hold on the Chinese market. Later on, referring to the German propaganda in China, the managing director says:—"The British authorities seem to be doing nothing to prove to the Chinese the falseness of the German claims or German news."

So much, Sir, for the righteous indignation of "A British Consul in China," with his allegations of "lies" and "preposterous assertions," and for Sir John Jordan's belief that "our efforts to promote British interests in China are more fully appreciated by our countrymen there than they appear to be by Mr. Wile and his anonymous informant."

The "Peking Gazette" understands that the China Medical Board of the Rockefeller Foundation have appointed Messrs. Shattuck and Huxley, architects of Chicago, to supervise the construction of new buildings and improvements to the existing premises of the Union Medical College, Peking. The plans of the Rockefeller Foundation involve the expenditure of over half a million dollars in building construction and improvements in the near future. Mr. Harry Huxley is expected to arrive in Peking in June next to devote his attention to the work.

TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

THE LACONIA OUTRAGE

TERRIBLE EXPERIENCES IN A WATER-LOGGED BOAT.

LONDON, Feb. 27. The two American ladies, who were victims of the *Laconia*, were among the seven people who died from exposure out of 21 occupants of a water-logged boat. A priest on board said that the boat hit the *Laconia's* stern when being lowered. The plank burst and the boat drifted without oars or rudder, filled with water up to the gunwale, from two o'clock at night to 3 o'clock the next afternoon.

Everybody crowded into the bows and stern of the boat, and the waves washed, some overhead. Others, including an American negro, who died, were thrown into the sea as the weight of the bodies would have endangered the water-logged boat.

While the priest was holding the interview a lady at his side was sobbing bitterly. She was an actress coming to England to be married, and had seen her fiancé die in the boat.

One hundred and sixty-five of the crew of the *Laconia* have crossed from Dublin to Liverpool. The majority were previously on board the torpedoed *Frankonia*.

Further stories of the survivors confirm the statement that the *Laconia* was twice torpedoed. She was first hit in the stern. The Captain ordered all lights to be turned on to facilitate the escape of the passengers and crew. The boat listed, then righted herself and was sinking slowly, when the submarine reappeared and torpedoed the engine room, though the boats were close by and quite visible in the blaze of electric light.

The *Laconia* sank immediately and the Captain and several officers had to swim.

Subsequently the submarine bobbed up again astern of a boat crowded with women and demanded the handing over of the captain. Receiving an evasive answer it finally vanished.

A steward kept one boatful of people alive by giving imitations of Harry Lauder and other comedians, forcing all to join in the chorus until they were picked up.

ANOTHER LUSITANIA CASE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27. Official despatches confirm the deaths of American subjects, who were on board the *Laconia*, thus establishing the overt act, which is regarded as another *Lusitania* case.

President Wilson and the State Department officials consider that no steps should be taken until Congress acts upon the President's request for authority to arm merchantmen. The sinking of the *Laconia* will hasten the action of Congress.

The Committees of both Houses have been busy re-drafting the Bill, but it is now expected that they will acquiesce in the Government's wish that the Bill shall be passed without any change being made.

DUTCH OFFICERS INTERVIEWED.

LONDON, Feb. 28. Officers of the *Eemland*, interviewed in London, state that simultaneously with the submarine's order to stop, a torpedo was fired, just missing the *Eemland's* stern. The Captain, replying in the darkness to a peremptory command to quit the ship, said: "We are for the Dutch Government." The only answer was: "Five minutes." The submarine was exceptionally large and had two guns. We had to leave everything behind, even the ship's papers, and we drifted in boats for twelve hours, thinly clad. We were picked up by a British vessel at 6 o'clock in the morning. The submarine made the officers of other Dutch boats take bombs to destroy the *Eemland*, but, firstly, pillaged the wine and food.

NEWSPAPER COMMENTS.

The newspapers express horror at the outrage and sympathy for the Dutch nation, but emphasize that the Dutch are victims of their reliance on German promises and their disregard of the protection of the British Admiralty. They ex-

press the opinion that Germany is exploiting Holland's anxiety to keep out of the war, turning the screw to see how much the victim will stand, possibly seeking an excuse to make a piratical legal raid on Holland. They point out that neutrals, Scandinavia included, must now see the mistake of failing to find a basis of common defence against the brigand empire. They speculate on the attitude of the United States but do not expect it will result in action.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE CAPTURE OF KUT.

GENERAL MAUDE TELEGRAPHS DETAILS.

LONDON, Feb. 27. In the House of Lords, Lord Curzon read a telegram from General Maude stating that on the morning of February 25, the cavalry and infantry moved westward in pursuit of the retreating enemy. Strong Turkish rearguards, supported by artillery, occupied a trench position fifteen miles west north-west of Kut, evidently covering the withdrawal from Bagdalah. After an intense bombardment our infantry assaulted the enemy's position and obtained a footing in it, while our cavalry operated round the Turkish northern flank. At least sixty prisoners, as well as numerous flocks, equipment and stores were captured.

Our aeroplanes bombed a steamer towing a Turkish pontoon bridge up the stream with the result that the tow rope was shipped and the pontoon floated down stream. Lord Curzon added that it was evident that the scene of operations had shifted considerably upstream beyond Kut and the success announced yesterday had been followed up. He believed that several thousand prisoners had been taken. It was clear that the slur on our arms, if that phrase was applicable, caused by the events of last year, was now entirely wiped out. (Cheers.)

THE BRITISH ADVANCE.

ANOTHER DISTORTED GERMAN VERSION.

LONDON, Feb. 27. A German official message transmitted by wireless says:—There have been numerous English advances between Ypres and the Somme, but only one reached the trenches east of Arras and a counter-attack drove it out.

The activity on the East front has increased with the decreasing cold.

AMERICAN "ARMED NEUTRALITY."

WARLIKE PREPARATIONS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27. President Wilson's speech foreshadowed that his action will probably be a declaration of "armed neutrality." The Bill introduced in the House of Representatives to-day provides for a special bond issue of \$100,000,000.

THE BRITISH FLEET.

PHOTOGRAPHS INDICATE COMMANDERS.

LONDON, Feb. 27. Photographs published show that Rear-Admiral Sir Charles Madden is Second-in-Command of the Grand Fleet and that Rear-Admiral Sir William Paakenham commands the Battle Cruiser Fleet.

THE SINKING OF THE LACONIA.

DEATHS FROM EXPOSURE.

LONDON, Feb. 27. It transpires that eight out of the nine missing from the *Laconia* died in a boat from exposure.

There were six Americans among the passengers and fifteen in the crew of the *Laconia*, who were all saved, except two ladies, who were buried at sea.

THE FOOD QUESTION IN GREAT BRITAIN.

SOLDIERS FOR AGRICULTURAL WORK.

LONDON, Feb. 27. In the House of Commons, Sir R. Wintrey announced that the War Office proposed to supply 30,000 soldiers for agricultural work. Of these 15,000 would be temporarily released from the Home Defence army for Spring cultivation, while others would work under military control.

THE WAR SAVINGS ASSOCIATION.

REASONS WHY CHINESE SHOULD SUBSCRIBE.

SIR E. FRASER ON ANGLO-CHINESE AMITY.

A meeting of the China and Japan War Savings Association was held at Shanghai last week.

Sir E. Fraser, K.C.M.G., H. M. Consul General, who presided, said:—When it was suggested that Chinese merchants should be invited to participate in our Association, which has already grown to considerable size, as our Treasurer who is also our Founder will tell you, there arose, of course, objections as to whether it was worth the trouble. These objections may, I think, be boiled down into three. First Chinese men of business would not like the security since they doubted or disbelieved in our coming victory. It is true that our enemies got the start of the Allies by striking at their own time and that they rushed ahead. It is true that we took long to prepare ourselves for the greatest struggle of history, and that we are still struggling hard. It is also true that our enemies, both before and during the war, have spared neither time nor money nor labour in impressing on all neutrals, and especially China, their own invincibility. But we believe that you shrewd men of business have sized up the situation and that you do not believe that those who failed with all the advantages of readiness and surprise to aid them will ever win now that in men and in munitions we have the upper hand.

A minor objection is that our rates of interest are not attractive enough, but this does not matter as regards an investment into which some sympathy and desire to further true civilization, which brings me to the second objection, that we British have fought with your country, and we resident British have held ourselves too much aloof. Yes, 56 years ago our countries were at war—what of it! Did not war help on China's progress from the impossible backwardness in which the tide of history had left her and did it not especially promote trade good for all of us? I do not forget, of course, the Boxer rising, when foreign troops last appeared in China. Nor, I hope, do you forget the manner in which our present enemies treated your people. It would have been well for the Allies if they had taken that warning to heart.

THE FIRST FOREIGN TRADERS.

Yes, we British were the first foreign traders in these parts where Gordon helped to keep your fathers safe from rebel violence. And in all the half century since, this Settlement has attracted your people, who found in it justice and liberty. We may be, we are, still and shy, many of us, but at least we have the same tradition as you men of business, the tradition of fair dealing. And our old-fashioned ways, much divided, do not lead to such messes as there were at other ports owing to looser dealings.

We share China's aversion from war and preference for suasion not for force. It is not so long ago that we were scoffed at as the China of Europe. Our civilizations rest on the same basis of duty and right, and we recognize your Sages that the true sovereign rules by assent and not through compulsion. So we ask for your sympathy in practical form with confidence that will not, I'm sure, prove misplaced.

The third objection was that we invited you to unneighbourly conduct. That is, of course, absurd, since it is the privilege of the neutral to deal with either or both sides as freely as in time of peace, subject to such barriers as either side may place on its own people. I mention this objection simply lest the enemy use it to confuse and delude.

I come here gladly because after a lifetime in China I am as devoted to her interest as any Chinese can be, and everything that draws closer the bonds—the long tried bonds of amity between our countries—is to me a vast joy.

Mr. Goode, the Secretary, explained the rules and operations of the association for the benefit of the Chinese present.

Mr. W. H. Tranchesi Davis explained why the Allies were at war and recalled the Kaiser's speech to his troops who were leaving for China in 1900 in which he said: "Spare nobody, men, women or children; take no prisoners; set generally so that no Chinaman will ever dare to look in the face of a German again." The speaker went on to refer to German crimes in the present war, the submarine policy of the enemy and its effect upon China. He also showed his audience that the victory of Germany would mean her tyranny over China as well as other countries.

Mr. Chu Paosun, Chairman of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, thanked the Committee for so fully explaining the objects and working of the Association. He said that the Chinese sympathized with the Allies' cause and would be only too pleased to help.

TROUBLE AVERTED.

THAT little cold and sore throat, if you must be checked at once or it may develop into something worse. Take a few doses of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, and your troubles will soon vanish. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

THE PROMOTION OF BRITISH TRADE.

SOME SUGGESTIONS.

REMARKS ON THE CONSULAR SERVICE.

The following is a summary of the recommendations for the development of the Government service for the promotion of British trade in foreign countries formulated by the Federation of British Industries.

That all the activities undertaken by the Government for the promotion of British trade in foreign countries should be concentrated in a single Department—the Foreign Office.

That really efficient machinery should be established to co-ordinate the work of the Foreign Office and of the Department in charge of industrial and commercial affairs.

That the Foreign Office and foreign services should be reorganised on the following lines:—The establishment of a large Commercial Branch of the Foreign Office with the provision of extra staff and accommodation on a generous scale.

The Commercial Branch of the Foreign Office should be divided into two sections: one to be devoted to the study of industrial and commercial questions.

The Commercial Attaché Service should be replaced by the appointment of officers of high rank, to be known as Commercial Counsellors, to each Embassy or Legation, to be in sole charge under the Minister, or Ambassador, of all commercial work in the country.

The commercial work of the Consular Service to be subject to the direction of the Commercial Counsellors.

In all services only natural-born British subjects to be eligible for appointment to any post, paid or unpaid.

The introduction of a small number of men with practical business experience especially into the Commercial Branch of the Foreign Office and the Commercial Counsellor Service.

The establishment of a definite and high standard of efficiency which must be reached by all officers at different stages of their career. This standard to be administered by a Promotion Board with power to postpone the promotion of any officer who does not reach the standard, to demand the resignation of any officer who falls far short of it, and to grant a pension commensurate with past services to any officer whose resignation is demanded.

A large number of technical and commercial experts should be selected and sent, when required, to investigate and report upon industrial and commercial conditions and opportunities in particular countries and particular markets.

Special funds should be provided to enable the best possible advice to be obtained, and these investigations to be made with sufficient frequency and thoroughness.

In connection with the above suggestions it is interesting to note that the Special Committee appointed by the Executive Council of the Association of Chambers of Commerce, over which Sir Algernon Firth presided, has just issued its report and recommendations. The opinion is expressed that what is now required is that every British Consulate should be an "outpost of the Empire" to which British subjects may turn for assistance, and from which a keen lookout should be kept by competent officials for opportunities of extending British commerce.

It is recommended, amongst other things, that every paid Consular officer should be not only a British subject, as is the condition at present, but should be also of British birth and descent. The Committee has come to the conclusion that the interests of British trade and commerce cannot be effectively looked after by an official whose duties are not wholly directed to the expansion and promotion of these interests.

In order that the new conditions may be effectively met the Committee is of opinion that the duties should be divided into two branches. The first of these would be administrative, and the officer would include among his duties the administration of the Merchant Shipping Acts, the giving of advice and assistance to British subjects in the port of call, the registration of births, deaths, and marriages. The second branch would furnish reports, with statistics of the trade of each district and lists for the Board of Trade of possible buyers of British goods, and of manufacturers who might be interested in the export of British goods.

With regard to the commercial branch the Committee is of opinion that the duties should be divided into two branches. The first of these would be administrative, and the officer would include among his duties the administration of the Merchant Shipping Acts, the giving of advice and assistance to British subjects in the port of call, the registration of births, deaths, and marriages. The second branch would furnish reports, with statistics of the trade of each district and lists for the Board of Trade of possible buyers of British goods, and of manufacturers who might be interested in the export of British goods.

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FROM TROOPER TO CHIEF OF STAFF.

ROMANCE OF SIR WILLIAM ROBERTSON'S CAREER.

On the day that William Robertson, a trooper in the 16th Lancers, had secured, after barely a year of enlistment, the second-class certificate which gave him a "stripe," he was announced to the Army school-master that he intended to compete for a first-class certificate. "What is the use?" was all the encouragement he received. "You surely do not expect to become a commissioned officer?" "One never knows," answered the Lincolnshire lad, who to-day fills the commanding position of Chief on the Imperial General Staff.

That episode is one of many related by Mr. G. A. Leask in his life-story of Sir William Robertson which illustrates the efficacy of self-help in the British Army, and prove the literal accuracy of Napoleon's famous maxim. When he placed his foot on the first rung of the military ladder Sir William Robertson had nothing but his own character to pull him up. He had not even, in these early days, a war in which quick promotion could be won in the field, nor an expanding army and a corresponding demand for new officers. General Robertson rose exclusively on personal merit, by methods which the rawest recruit in the New Army may emulate, and may consummate with success. The millions of men who now serve under him know that he was once of themselves, facing their own hardships, subservient to the same discipline, enjoying no more, but no less facilities than themselves for gaining promotion. What more timely publication than a shilling book which, in simple sequence and restrained eulogy, tells the story of this famous self-made soldier? From its pages the public will learn many facts about a career singularly little advertised in the past. The ambitious man in the New Army could not possibly want a better stimulant than this unadorned yet adorning biography.

Trooper Robertson, of the 16th Lancers, had a much harder row to hoe than (say) Private Robinson who has recently left the counter for the colours. To jump from a corporal to a sergeant in the seventies meant much diligent study; to become a sergeant-major was beyond the dreams of most soldiers. But Robertson was different—and he seized every honourable chance. As a corporal, Mr. Leask tells us, he had to take charge of the messing account and attend to the catering of his own troop. It was a week-in and week-out job, but the messing during the first week controlled by Corporal Robertson showed such an improvement that he was requested by his comrades to take permanent charge. Thus early did the man, destined as Quartermaster-General of the British Expeditionary Force which crossed the Channel in 1914, to play an invaluable part in an historic operation, exhibit his powers of organization. Sir William Robertson first made his mark as "the man behind the grub." Let the newest and least hopeful Tommy remember that.

HOW HE GOT HIS COMMISSION.

The impression gained in reading this welcome little book is that of a young soldier who, come what might, was determined to advance in his profession. He became efficient in every branch and arm of the service. He was signalling instructor and musketry instructor for some years in his regiment. He was the best man in his troop at skill-of-arms with sword and lance; he soon became a crack shot. Through a healthy and natural upbringing had given him a fine physique, he made a habit of running ten miles every Saturday afternoon, "just for the fun of it," as he told his comrades. During the last few years spent in the ranks—doubtless his greatest period of training—he turned his attention to the study of war. He became a diligent student of tactics and strategy, and read every war book he could lay his hands on.

A good story is told of his oral examination in 1904. During the preliminary for every non-commissioned officer applying for a commission, Sergeant-Major Robertson was required to take command of all the officers and men drawn up on parade. Several movements were satisfactorily performed. Then Robertson gave his order for a very complicated movement, one seldom executed on parade.

Away went the adjutant and regimental sergeant-major to give the usual bass, but they were on the wrong flank of the regiment. The colonel's eyes were on the parade, and he saw the sergeant-major and the adjutant, and he solved the problem at the same time. The latter, however, had also seen what was wrong, and delayed giving the word of command for the movement to move. The commanding officer immediately started to hustle, and brusquely called out: "Now, then, sergeant-major, get on—give the word of command." "Very well, sir," replied Robertson; "I will, when the base is placed in the right position."

After that the colonel did not want to see any more. The man who could put his adjutant and regimental sergeant-major in their proper place was quite good enough for him.

In the ranks General Robertson was taking and preparing. When he went to India as a subaltern in the 3rd Dragoon Guards he was a man of war. "From 1883 onward," says Mr. Leask, "we find him acting in the capacity of a leader, a man possessing power of initiative, and with every facility for putting the knowledge gained in his apprenticeship to the best use."

Men under him marvelled at his almost uncanny knowledge of everything pertaining to the art of war, and the soldier's duties. His work was, in fact, a life-long study of the Chitral Relief Expedition, and as staff officer at Simla, vividly outlined by Mr. Leask, must have been intensely interesting to a mind so keen and ambitious. Of course he could never have fulfilled the difficult and delicate task imposed without a knowledge of native languages. Here, again, his well-known methodical habits were illustrated. Instead of engaging a teacher of Pushtu and Punjabi, and paying him some shilling or two, he took a son and him by the hand. "He would call Robertson every morning at five a.m. for lessons, before the young lieutenant went to his day's work. Naturally, the teacher was anxious for his pupil to excel, and gave him no peace until he had passed, when, of course, he got his

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DOSE.—From ten drops to one tea-spoonful according to age and circumstances, to be taken three or four times a day, or when the Cough is troublesome.

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AGENTS.

share of the reward. In two and a half years we are told, Robertson could speak five different native tongues.

HIS ONLY COMPLAINT.

Later, when he returned to England, and entered the Staff College at Aldershot (Sir Douglas Haig was a fellow pupil, by the way), Sir William Robertson developed his linguistic ability, his tutor either French or German all the time. "However, not a man," says the former, "who expected his tutor to have a lesson prepared for him, but he himself used to take long walks in the country, talking out loud to himself, and he would say to himself: 'What might be of any service to him? He always asked, 'What is the name for this? What is the name for that?' and you had to be prepared for him, or out came his pocket dictionary. In dictation he would not omit a comma or the modification signs on a German vowel. In order to be able to express himself correctly in French or German at the dinner-table he frequently invited me to dinner, and, of course, I did the same. He was silent, cool, and clear headed, and the only complaint I ever heard him make was, that promotion was slow."

There are many other passages in this life-story worth quoting, for Mr. Leask serves General Robertson's career through every phase—in the Intelligence Department, at the War Office, as A.Q.M.G. under French at Aldershot, as commandant of Staff College at Camberley, in South Africa, down to his share in the Great War, first as Q.M.G. and Chief of the Staff at the Front, and then as Chief of the Imperial General Staff in Whitehall. It is related that in all the intercourse which Sir William had with Marshal Joffre an interpreter was never necessary. The same, of course, never necessary.

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